

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 164

July 9, 1997, 6:51 pm
Page S-7088 Temp. Record

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION/Mexican Elections

SUBJECT: National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1998 . . . S. 936. Dodd/McCain amendment No. 765.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 98-0

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 936, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1998, will authorize a total of \$268.2 billion in budget authority for national defense programs (the President requested \$265.6 billion). In real terms, this bill will authorize \$3.3 billion less than was provided in fiscal year (FY) 1997.

The Dodd/McCain amendment would express the sense of Congress: that the recent Mexican elections were conducted in a free, fair, and impartial manner; that the will of the Mexican people, as expressed through the ballot box, has been respected by President Zedillo and officials throughout his Administration; and that President Zedillo, the Mexican Government, the Federal Electoral Institute, the political parties and candidates, and most importantly the citizens of Mexico should all be congratulated for their support and participation in these very historic elections.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

Until the elections of 3 days ago, Mexico was a one-party state. For the past 68 years, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) ruled Mexico. Elections have been held previously, but all aspects of those earlier elections have been closely controlled by the PRI and only PRI party members have won. In recent years, as democracy has swept across Latin America and through the former Soviet states, the Mexican people have come to the conclusion that a one-party state is a democracy in name only. They have called for political reforms, and the leaders of the PRI, to their great credit, have been responsive. They have taken a number of steps to open the political process, which culminated in the elections of 3 days ago. In those free and fair elections, which were run by an autonomous election board created by Mexican President Zedillo, an opposition candidate was elected Mayor of Mexico City, many of the 31 governorships were captured by candidates of both conservative and liberal opposition parties, and PRI candidates received

(See other side)

YEAS (98)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (54 or 100%)		Democrats (44 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Helms	Akaka	Inouye			Jeffords- ²	Mikulski- ²
Allard	Hutchinson	Baucus	Johnson				
Ashcroft	Hutchison	Biden	Kennedy				
Bennett	Inhofe	Bingaman	Kerrey				
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kerry				
Brownback	Kyl	Breaux	Kohl				
Burns	Lott	Bryan	Landrieu				
Campbell	Lugar	Bumpers	Lautenberg				
Chafee	Mack	Byrd	Leahy				
Coats	McCain	Cleland	Levin				
Cochran	McConnell	Conrad	Lieberman				
Collins	Murkowski	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
Coverdell	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
Craig	Roberts	Dorgan	Murray				
D'Amato	Roth	Durbin	Reed				
DeWine	Santorum	Feingold	Reid				
Domenici	Sessions	Feinstein	Robb				
Enzi	Shelby	Ford	Rockefeller				
Faircloth	Smith, Bob	Glenn	Sarbanes				
Frist	Smith, Gordon	Graham	Torricelli				
Gorton	Snowe	Harkin	Wellstone				
Gramm	Specter	Hollings	Wyden				
Grams	Stevens						
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hagel	Thurmond						
Hatch	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business
2—Necessarily Absent
3—Illness
4—Other

SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea
AN—Announced Nay
PY—Paired Yea
PN—Paired Nay

a minority of the votes for candidates for the national legislature. The PRI, though of course disappointed in the results, has embraced them. We are delighted to extend our congratulations to Mexico on this watershed event in its history.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.